Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:JWVINCENT:LB APPROVED BY AF/W:MR SHERWOOD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT DAKAR 2239 ACTION STATE INFO CONAKRY LISBON LONDON LOURENCO MARQUES LUANDA PARIS 26 APRIL 1974. QUOTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 2239

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, SG, PO, PU

SUBJ: SENEGALESE REACTION TO PORTUGUESE COUP

- 1. COUP GIVEN BANNER HEADLINES IN LOCAL PRESS FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL BY BARA DIOUF, UNOFFICIAL SPOKESMAN FOR SENGHOR, ATTRIBUTES ARMY'S ACTION TO SPINOLA, CONVEYS EXPECTATION THAT HE WILL PUT AN END TO COLONIAL WAR AND "OPEN NEW PAGE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND ITS POSSESSIONS."
- 2. EDITORIAL ALSO GIVES PRESIDENT SEGHOR CREDIT FOR HAVING CONTRIBUTED TO SPINOLA'S POLITICAL EDUCATION, REVEALING FOR FIRST TIME IN PUBLIC THAT SENGHOR AND PORTUGUESE GENERAL HAD MET WHILE LATTER WAS IN COMMAND IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA. "WE KNOW OF THE SECRET MEETINGS THAT TOOK PLACE BETWEEN PRESIDENT SENGHOR, SOMEWHERE IN THE CASAMANCE, DURING WHICH THE SENEGALESE LEADER, BY VIRTUE OF DIALOGUE CONVINCED HIM (I.E. SPINOLA) OF THE USELESSNESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF PURSUING A WAR LOST IN ADVANCE AND OF THE URGENCY OF

FINDING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION WHICH COULD NOT BUT END WITH THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE SO-CALLED OVERSEAS PROVINCES."

3. GIVEN IMMENSE INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENTS HERE ON PART OF SENGHOR AND GOS, AND REPERCUSSIONS EVENTS IN PORTUGAL LIKELY HAVE ON SENEGALESE FOREIGH POLICY, EMBASSY HOPES DEPT. WILL KEEP US AS FULLY INFORMED AS POSSIBLE ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. AGGREY

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INDEPENDENCE, PRESS COMMENTS, DEPENDENCY POLICIES, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 APR 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE086438

Document Number: 1974STATE086438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWVINCENT:LB Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740100-0841

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974049/aaaaahqi.tel Line Count: 71 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 23 APR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SENEGALESE REACTION TO PORTUGUESE COUP TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SG, PO, PU, (SPINOLA, ANTONIO DE)

To: KINSHASA

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005